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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/813,480	03/29/2004	Jin-Wen Liao	70272-010601	4798

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GREENBERG TRAURIG LLP
2450 COLORADO AVENUE, SUITE 400E
SANTA MONICA, CA 90404

EXAMINER

KOSTAK, VICTOR R

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2622

DATE MAILED: 10/18/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/813,480

Applicant(s)

LIAO ET AL.

Examiner

Victor R. Kostak

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 16 August 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☒ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

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1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tong et al. in view of Boger.

The display system of Tong (noting Figs. 1, 2 and 4) includes a circuit board 406 (Fig. 4) located within the display unit, and a personality module 408 is plugged into (inserted in) the dock (access slot). The module can be any one of plural modules that has a specific operation, such as providing the display with NTSC, PAL, or SECAM, tuning capabilities (module 113: sections [0020] and [0030] which are connected to the main circuit board 406, which three different modes operate in specific geographic regions to accommodate the respective mode.

Tong mentions that the monitor type can be a CRT or an LCD (e.g. section [0017] thereby suggesting that the display type is inconsequential to the described salient feature of providing various content modules in a multimode display system. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use any well-known display device, such as a plasma display as well as a CRT or LCD, as recognized by Boger, who points out that a multimode display system can incorporate any of well known display types including CRTs, LCDs, plasma units, and a multitude of others (col. 4 lines 49-65), thereby meeting claims 1-4.

As for claims 5 and 6, power can come from dock 102 or an additional external module (section [0018]), and standard NTSC requires 110 V AC at 60 Hz and PAL 230 V AC at 50 Hz to operate.

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As for claims 7 and 8, Tong allows for various A/V source connector modules to be docked (inserted) into the display system, including VGA (section [0033] and DVD or VCR output (module 114).

Regarding claim 9, mother (main circuit) board 406 includes audio and video decoding (section [0024]); analog or digital video inputs (sections [0032] and [0036]); wherein digital processing would require initial A/D conversion; the digital video being converted into RGB signal (section 0032]) and subsequent scaling of the digital RGB into presentable form (sections [0032], [0033], [0036] again). Insertable into the dock for connection with the main board are any of multiple modules, as noted above, including plural A/V interfaces and tuner modules 112-116, wherein the respective PAL, NTSC and SECAM tuners operate according to designated geographic regions.

As discussed above, Tong mentions that the monitor type can be a CRT or an LCD (e.g. section [0017] thereby suggesting that the display type is inconsequential to the described salient feature of providing various content modules in a multimode display system. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use any well-known display device, such as a plasma display as well as a CRT or LCD, as recognized by Boger, who points out that a multimode display system can incorporate any of well known display types including CRTs, LCDs, plasma units, and a multitude of others (col. 4 lines 49-65).

As for claims 10-12, interface options include a computer (module 112); a video game console (module 116), and a DVD unit 114 (section [0021]) with DVI connection (section [0026]).

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2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Victor R. Kostak whose telephone number is (571) 272-7348. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 6:30am-3:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David W. Ometz can be reached on (571) 272-7593. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Or faxed to:

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(571) 273-8300

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 308-HELP.



Victor R. Kostak
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2622

VRK